



09-C-0192

CITY OF ATLANTA

Shirley Franklin
Mayor

Office of the Mayor
55 Trinity Avenue, SW
Suite 2400
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-330-6100

Greg Pridgeon
Chief of Staff

January 15, 2009

President Lisa Borders and
Members of the Atlanta City Council
City Hall, Suite 2900 South
68 Mitchell Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Atlanta Housing Authority (AHA) Reappointment

Dear President Borders and Members of Council:

It is a pleasure for me to appoint **Aaron Watson** to serve as a member of the Atlanta Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for the City of Atlanta. This appointment is for a **term of five (5) years**, beginning with the date of confirmation by the City Council.

I am confident that Mr. Watson will serve the Atlanta Housing Authority with integrity and dedication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley Franklin".

Shirley Franklin

Aaron Watson

In January 2002, Aaron Watson resumed the private practice of law and subsequently became Managing Director of MAGNER.NETWORK, LLC, a financial services company. Prior to January 2002, Mr. Watson served as President of MeritSpan Holdings, Inc., an electronic B2B exchange for minority-owned businesses which allowed Fortune 500 companies to conduct a full range of business activities associated with managing supplier diversity. Mr. Watson was previously in private legal practice in Atlanta, Georgia, with the Miami-based law firm Greenberg Traurig. Mr. Watson represented numerous African-American, Hispanic and women-owned businesses in the general and corporate finance areas of law. He also practiced as a certified public accountant, working for several years with Deloitte & Touche in the U.S. and abroad.

In 1993, Mr. Watson was elected to the Atlanta Board of Education for the first of two 4-year terms and he continues to serve on the Atlanta School Board. Mr. Watson was elected by his colleagues to serve as President of the School Board each year from 1994 to 1997 and again in 2000. As President of the Board, Mr. Watson oversaw an operating budget in excess of \$450 million. In those years when Mr. Watson was not President of the School Board, he chaired the Board's Finance Oversight Committee. During his tenure, he led a major campaign in 1997 to win support for a \$430 million Special Use Sales Tax to fund construction of additional schools, renovations and additions at 49 existing schools and the installation of technology infrastructure throughout the school system. Mr. Watson also is active in the Council of Urban Boards of Education, The National School Boards Association and is a Trustee of the National Federation of Urban and Suburban School Systems.

Mr. Watson is professionally affiliated with the Atlanta Bar Association, the Georgia Bar Association and the American Bar Association, and is a graduate of Duke University Law School and the University of Notre Dame. Mr. Watson also serves on the Boards of the APEX Museum, the Atlanta Development Authority, the Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority, and the Advisory Board of Hands on Atlanta.

Contact Information

Business

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Personal

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Atlanta, Georgia 30306
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Facsimile: (404) 892-1650

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(Do Not Write Above This Line)

A COMMUNICATION BY

MAYOR SHIRLEY FRANKLIN:

APPOINTING AARON WATSON TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE ATLANTA HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. THIS APPOINTMENT IS FOR A TERM OF FIVE (5) YEARS, BEGINNING WITH CONFIRMATION BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

- ☐ CONSENT REFER
☐ REGULAR REPORT REFER
☐ ADVERTISE & REFER
☐ 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER
☐ PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred

1/22/09

Referred To:

CD/HR + COC

Date Referred

Referred To:

Date Referred

Referred To:

First Reading

Committee

Date

Chair

Referred to

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Refer To

FINAL COUNCIL ACTION

☐ 2nd

☐ 1st & 2nd

☐ 3

Readings

☐ Consent

☐ V Vote

☐ RC Vot

CERTIFIED

MAYOR'S ACTION